

Ehtesham Ihsan

Head of IT at Kaneka (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. | Driving Innovation and Efficiency through Technology | Building University-Industry Collaborations

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CAREER PROFILE

Highly accomplished IT leader with 20+ years of experience driving operational excellence, digital transformation, and cloud migration initiatives. Proven ability to manage IT infrastructure, security, and support teams to deliver strategic solutions aligned with business objectives. Recognized industry expert (Nutanix Technology Champion & User Group Champion) with deep technical expertise in cloud computing, business analysis, and IT management. Passionate about fostering innovation and collaboration to create value-driven outcomes.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Kaneka (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd
Senior Manager, MIS

Kuala Lumpur
April 2013–Present (11 years 3 months)

Sham leads digital transformation and IT strategy for Kaneka across the Asia Pacific region. He is responsible for setting the technological vision, driving modernization initiatives, and overseeing large-scale implementation projects. Sham spearheads Kaneka's transition from a legacy environment to modern cloud-based architectures and applications.

Under his leadership, Kaneka has undergone a comprehensive infrastructure overhaul in the last 10 years, including data center relocation & migration and virtualization of entire workloads to Nutanix. He has overseen the migration to a robust 3-tier network architecture and enabled seamless sign-on across the organization. Security enhancements and stringent compliance measures were also strategically implemented in close coordination with headquarters over the last 2-3 years.

Sham has successfully collaborated with local universities on cutting-edge projects like leveraging AI for optimizing polymerization process, GPS asset tracking, drone-based smart manufacturing, and AR/VR simulated training through research grants. Currently, he is exploring generative AI use cases and seeking new opportunities for academic partnerships. He also pioneered the citizen developer program at Kaneka, driving adoption of the Mendix low-code/no-code platform.

With deep expertise spanning SAP, Mendix, Office365, Azure, and AWS, Sham has demonstrated proficiency in managing complex applications and cloud landscapes. He oversees SAP operations and has successfully delivered two major ECC upgrade migrations.

He recently led the infrastructure implementation of S/4HANA on Azure, liaising with headquarters for Kaneka's adoption of SAP on RISE.

As a visionary IT leader, Sham excels at budget planning, crafting long-term strategic roadmaps, stakeholder engagement, and providing coaching/training for team development. He plays a pivotal role in Kaneka's digital transformation journey, transitioning the technological landscape to enable business resilience and sustainable growth through innovation.

Columbia Asia Malaysia
Group Support Lead, MIS

Subang Jaya, Selangor
Jun 2011 – April 2013 (1 years 11 months)

Sham led a team in implementing hospital systems and applications across 20 medical facilities with the group. Ensured seamless integration with various systems and minimal disruption to operations. Mentored team members to enhance their skills and knowledge. Developed process improvements to enhance IT operations. Promoted a culture of continuous learning and professional development. Enabled data-driven decision-making and improved operational efficiency across Columbia Asia hospitals.

NTT DoCoMo interTouch
Network Operations Engineer

Singapore
Nov 2007 – Jun 2011 (3 years 8 months)

Atos
Lead Technical Specialist, Infrastructure

Cyberjaya
Nov 2006 – Nov 2007 (1 year 1 month)

Dell
Senior System Administrator

Bayan Lepas, Penang
Feb 2006 – Nov 2006 (10 months)

Pan Pacific Hotel
System Administrator

Kuala Lumpur
Feb 2004 - Feb 2006 (2 years 1 month)

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree (Honours) in Computer Science
Staffordshire University, UK | 2004

Higher Diploma in Computer Systems
Asia Pacific Institute of Information Technology, Kuala Lumpur | 2002

CORE SKILLS

Strategic IT Leadership & Innovation | Tech Leader | Compliance Expert | Problem Solver | Results Driven | Change Agent | Process Optimizer | Data-Centric | Lifelong Learner

A seasoned IT leader with a passion for driving strategic innovation and fostering organizational excellence. Demonstrated expertise in leading technology initiatives, ensuring compliance, and solving complex problems. Results-driven with a track record of exceeding performance targets by effectively managing projects, resources, and budgets, driving efficiency, and maximizing ROI on IT investments. A change agent who champions organizational change and process optimization. Data-centric approach leveraging insights to inform decision-making and drive growth. Lifelong learner committed to continuous professional development and staying abreast of emerging technologies.

SOFT SKILLS

Innovative team player with strong communication skills, adept at fostering collaboration and synergy within diverse teams. Highly organized and adaptable, able to thrive in dynamic environments. Quick learner with a flexible approach, readily embracing new challenges and opportunities for growth.

OTHER INFORMATION

Nationality : Malaysian
Date of Birth : 11 August 1982 (Age 42)
Marital Status : Married
Languages : Proficient in English and Bahasa Malaysia
Availability : 3 months